



Neil J. Rudolph
Vice President

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Renata Hesse
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Dear Ms. Hesse:

I sincerely hope that the federal courts finally will put an end to the government's pursuit of Microsoft. The national economy has been hurt enough, the technology sector has been hurt enough, the nation's most important software company has been hurt enough, and no damage to the consumer and end user has ever been proven.

The stock market meltdown and the ongoing layoffs through the technology sector demonstrate that this proceeding should be stopped. The settlement that has been reached appropriately punishes Microsoft and protects against any future anticompetitive behavior. It is time to let the marketplace, not the courtroom, determine the future of this industry.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Neil J. Rudolph